



THE FAS LETTER

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE SERVICE

September - October 1975

RICHARD E. BELL NAMED ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND COMMODITY PROGRAMS



Richard E. Bell assumed the duties of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for International Affairs and Commodity Programs on July 22, 1975, after serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary since June 1973.

In his new post, he directs the operations of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, and the Foreign Agricultural Service, and is a member of the board of directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

Mr. Bell joined the Department of Agriculture in 1959 as an economic analyst on Soviet agriculture in FAS until late 1961 when he was appointed assistant agricultural attache in Ottawa. In 1964 he became assistant attache in Brussels, then attache in Dublin in 1965. On his return to FAS/W in 1968, he became chief of grain marketing operations. In 1970 he was appointed director of the Grain and Feed Division and served in this position until his appointment as deputy assistant secretary.

Earlier this year, he received the Distinguished Service Award, the Department's highest honor, for his leadership in international trade. In 1973 he received the Department's second highest honor, the Superior Service Award, for his work in promoting wheat exports.

Born in Clinton, Illinois, Mr. Bell grew up on a corn-soybean-livestock farm in that State. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana.

Dale Sherwin succeeded Mr. Bell as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs on September 10. A former Michigan farmer, Mr. Sherwin joined USDA's office of legislative affairs in 1973 as chief liaison officer with the U.S. Senate. ■

ALEXANDER BERNITZ BECOMES DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES

Alexander Bernitz was appointed Deputy Assistant Administrator, Agricultural Attaches, on July 6. He succeeds Alan Trick, who has entered training at the Foreign Service Institute.

Alex worked as an agricultural economist in FAS and ERS from 1960-63 before being appointed assistant agricultural attache in Bonn. Since his return to FAS/W in December 1969, he has worked in the export trade promotion programs, and has been director of the Export Trade Services Division since early 1973.

Succeeding Alex as ETS director is William F. Dobbins, who has been Latin American Area Officer. Bill previously worked with export trade promotion programs from 1961-68 and 1970-72. From 1968-70 he was assistant attache in Rome. Bill has been with FAS since 1955. ■

FOREIGN LANGUAGE INCENTIVE PROGRAM AWARDS ANNUAL CASH PAYMENTS

Attention all bilingual or multilingual FAS'ers! A new Foreign Language Incentive Program has been started which provides cash payments for specified levels of proficiency in certain languages.

Up to two languages are eligible for consideration, but one must be the language required at the assigned post. The accompanying box lists the difficult and nondifficult languages considered, fluency level requirements, and possible cash awards.

FAS personnel may have their skills rated by requesting a FSI test, if one is not on record within the past 2 years for FAS/F or 1 year for Washington employees. Awards may be repeated annually if the language proficiency remains at or above the award level.

Certain other criteria also must be met. Employees must hold a permanent appointment and have been on FAS rolls for at least 1 year. In addition, U.S. citizen foreign field employees and FAS/W personnel are required to be currently available for overseas assignment worldwide. Other FAS/W personnel will be considered if serving in a position in which a language proficiency is considered useful.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE INCENTIVE AWARDS SCALE

SECRETARIES	Attaining Award Level (S-2/R-2 for Group I, S-1+/R-1+ for Group II)	\$300 (\$150)*
	Maintaining Award Level	\$300 (\$150)*
PROFESSIONALS	Attaining Award Level (S-3/R-3 for Group I, S-2/R-2 for Group II)	\$500 (\$250)*
	Maintaining Award Level	\$500 (\$250)*
Annual Additional Award for Japanese and Chinese	Attaining and Maintaining	\$100

Group I: Afrikaans, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish

Group II: Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Czech, Finnish, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Persian, Polish, Punjabi, Rumanian, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Swahili, Thai, Turkish, Urdu

*Amounts in parentheses are for Washington employees or for languages other than those spoken at post.

Attaches On The Move

Newcomers



Taking up duties as new assistant attache in New Delhi is Robert Tetro. He came to FAS's Cotton Division in 1973. Since March of this year, he has been working in Trade Operations Division. ETA in New Delhi for Bob is early October. ■



Newcomer to FAS is James Brock, attache in San Salvador. He first came to USDA with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in early 1974, but was detailed to the White House as a staff assistant to the President and Vice-President before joining FAS this past spring. Jim has also worked for the Department of Interior, and was president and general manager of an agricultural research and production firm in El Centro, Calif. October is ETA for Jim and his family in San Salvador. ■



John Davenport is the new agricultural officer in Milan. His career in foreign agriculture began in 1972 in EMS, where he worked on the CCC Export Credit Sales and Barter programs. Since 1974 he has been a trade fair manager in Export Trade Services Division. John and his wife arrived in Milan in early August. ■

Field Transfers

After serving as assistant attache in Moscow since early 1973, **Paul Danyluk** is now attache in Warsaw. On two previous occasions, he has served as acting attache at his new post. He worked in the Foreign Regional Analysis Division of ERS, before joining FAS in 1967 to become assistant attache in Rome. ■

Alvin Gilbert is transferring to Islamabad from Rabat, where he has been assigned as attache since 1973. His other overseas assignments, since joining FAS in 1954, have included Lagos, San Salvador, and Manila. ■

Before his recent assignment as attache in Brussels, **Frank Padovano** worked as a foreign agricultural marketing specialist in both the Grain and Feed and Planning and Evaluating Divisions, FAS/W. Since coming to FAS in 1965, he has served as attache in Port-of-Spain and as assistant attache in Paris. ■

Robert Haresnape has become attache in Monrovia, after serving as assistant attache at that post since mid-1974. He came to FAS in 1963 and worked in international trade and reports and statistics before going to Paris as assistant attache in 1972. ■

James Hutchins has been reassigned as attache in The Hague. Before going to Warsaw as attache in 1973, he worked in the Export Marketing Service. He joined FAS in 1963 to become attache in Cairo, where he served until 1968. ■

FAS/W Assignments

Returning from Monrovia, where he has been attache since 1972, is **John Riesz** for reassignment in the Dairy, Livestock, and Poultry Division. John worked in the Livestock and Meat Products Division from the time he joined FAS in 1963 until 1967, when he was assigned as assistant attache in Tehran and then The Hague. ■

Also new on board the staff of the Dairy, Livestock, and Poultry Division, is **Alan Hemphill**, assistant attache in Tokyo since 1971. Joining FAS in 1967, he worked in the Program Operations Division, before going to Japan. ■

Byron Montgomery, who has been serving as agricultural officer in Milan, Italy since 1973, is returning to FAS/W to work in Foreign Market Development. Having begun his FAS career in 1956 with the Fats and Oils Division, he has since served as assistant attache in Caracas and then attache in San Jose. Before going to Milan, he worked in the Grain and Feed Division. ■

James M. Benson, assistant attache in Paris since 1968, is returning to FAS/W to work in the Trade Operations Division, ITP. After coming to FAS in 1965, he worked in the credit sales program. ■

The new Deputy Assistant Administrator for PL-480 programs is **William Scholz**, attache in Port-of-Spain since 1973. Since joining the Dairy & Poultry Division of FAS in 1955, he was agricultural trade fair manager before being assigned agricultural officer in Milan, Italy and then assistant attache in London. His more recent FAS/W assignments were with the program development staff. ■

Dalton Wilson is returning to FAS/W for assignment in the Office of the Assistant Administrator, Management. He has been attache in Buenos Aires since 1971. Since coming to FAS in 1959, other overseas assignments have included attache posts in Guatemala City and Lima. ■

After serving at several foreign posts since joining FAS in 1964, **James Frink** is coming to Washington as Director, International Marketing, Tobacco. He has been attache in Athens for the past 5 years and assistant attache in Tokyo from 1964-69. ■

After serving as assistant attache in Rome since 1971, **Forrest Geerken** is being reassigned to the attache area in FAS/W. He came to FAS in 1966 and worked in the Trade Projects Division until mid-1971. ■

Lawrence Hall is returning to the Grain and Feed Division, after two assignments overseas. He has served as assistant attache in New Delhi since 1973 and held the same position in London from 1971-73. He joined FAS in 1964 as an agricultural economist. ■

The Trade Negotiations Division, ITP, is the new assignment for Donald Nelson, attache in San Salvador since 1972. From 1970-72 he was assistant attache in Caracas. He worked in International Trade when he first came to FAS in 1968. ■

Charles O'Mara is returning to FAS/W to work in Foreign Commodity Analysis in the Tobacco Division, after serving in Sao Paulo since 1971 as agricultural officer. He came to FAS in 1967. ■

Richard Schroeter, who has been assistant attache at USEC-Brussels since 1970, has been reassigned to the Trade Operations Division. He worked in the Fruit and Vegetable Division from the time he came to FAS in 1966 until his overseas assignment. ■

Dale Vining is being reassigned to Foreign Market Development in the Grain and Feed Division, after serving as attache in Tehran for the past 2 years. He has also been attache in Kuala Lumpur and assistant attache in Madrid. Dale first joined FAS in 1954 then worked with ERS before returning to FAS to work in the Operations Analysis Division of International Trade in 1962. ■

Temporary Duty

Two staff members of the Dairy, Livestock, and Poultry Division are on temporary duty at foreign posts. Edward Karpoff is serving as acting attache in Tehran until early October and James O'Mara is acting in a similar capacity in San Salvador until late October. ■

Frank Piason, assistant attache in Rome since 1972, is also temporarily assigned in Rabat. He will be acting attache at that post until about the middle of October. ■



"ALL-U.S." FOOD EXHIBITION—
The American Food Festival in Osaka, Japan on August 5-9, was the first large "all-U.S." food exhibition ever held in western Japan. Sponsored by FAS and the Japan External Trade Organization, about 1,000 products from 16 States were displayed, including more than 100 products new to the Japanese market. Manager of the trade center where the festival was held is John A. Glew (left) assistant attache in Tokyo, talking with Doyle Conner, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services in Florida. Mr. Conner represented the Southern United States Trade Association, an organization of 15 State Agriculture Departments from Florida to Oklahoma. ■



BANGKOK AWARDS PRESENTATION—U.S. Ambassador to Thailand, Charles S. Whitehouse is shown with recipients of FAS awards for this year: Supat Wibulseth, left, Blue Ribbon Award, and Mrs. Sunanta Pakunpanya, Certificate of Merit. Agricultural attache Guy Haviland, far right, received a 20-year length of service certificate. Presentations were made in the Ambassador's office with families of the recipients, the DCM, the Economic Commercial staff, the AID Agricultural Director, and other Embassy friends in attendance. ■



WIVES HELP LIBERIAN RED CROSS DRIVE—The American Community in Monrovia participated in the Annual Liberian Red Cross Bazaar on May 22. The U.S. Booth netted over \$1,000 which was donated to the Liberian Red Cross. Mrs. Victoria Tolbert, wife of the President of Liberia, is pictured with Mrs. June Riesz (left), wife of the U.S. agricultural attache, Mrs. Suzanne Manfull (second from right), wife of the U.S. Ambassador, and Mrs. Martha Davis (right), wife of the director of the Voice of America Relay Station. ■

Secretarial Assignments

Maria Jania is the new secretary in Moscow. Before joining FAS, her most recent position was that of secretary to the vice-president for public affairs at Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). Maria succeeds **Lucille Sargent**, who has been reassigned to Warsaw after home leave. ■

New to the foreign secretarial field is **Marie Wells** in The Hague. She came to USDA in 1963 and joined FAS in 1968, serving in the Cotton, Dairy and Poultry Divisions, and most recently with the Export Trade Services Division. Marie's predecessor, **Carolyn Holloway**, is returning to FAS/W for assignment. ■

Doreen Burden is taking up duties as secretary in Belgrade, replacing **Patty Shannon**, who is taking home leave before reporting to her new post in Rabat. Before coming to FAS, Doreen was secretary in the executive branch of the Council on International Economic Policy, and has held several foreign secretarial positions for the Department of Defense in Japan, Morocco, and Europe. ■

Thelma Smith recently arrived in Lagos as secretary at that post, succeeding **Inez Jarvis**, who will be assuming duties in FAS/W. This assignment for Thelma is her first overseas stint with FAS, but she has been on previous foreign duty with DOD as secretary in both Japan and Korea. ■



AWARD PRESENTED IN PORT-OF-SPAIN—At a recent ceremony honoring Embassy employees in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Mrs. Carmen Pouchet, secretary in the attache office, received a Meritorious Award for outstanding secretarial performance. Pictured (from left) are Robert G. Rich, Charge d'Affaires, William L. Scholz, agricultural attache, Mrs. Pouchet, and Trevor Lovell, agricultural specialist. ■



Around Washington

NEW COORDINATOR JOINS FAS

Welcome to Haven D. Umstott, new Coordinator, Representation and Foreign Visitors Staff. Before coming to FAS, Haven was with the international training group of ERS. His USDA tenure began in 1957 with ASCS, but since 1960 he has worked in several areas of ERS. ■

FIRST INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL AGRICULTURE AWARD GOES TO RALPH W. PHILLIPS

Dr. Ralph W. Phillips, director of International Organization Affairs, received the first International Animal Agriculture Award from the American Society of Animal Science at the Society's Annual Meeting in Fort Collins, Colorado on July 29. A plaque and check for \$1,000 donated to the Society by ROUSSEL UCLAF of Paris, France, is to be presented annually for outstanding service in the field of international animal agriculture, particularly for the benefit of developing countries.

The citation recognized Dr. Phillips' contributions in five areas of activity: (1) Service as consultant on animal breeding to the governments of China and India, 1943-44; (2) service with FAO, 1946-57; (3) service as scientific secretary for agriculture, of the U.N. Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of Less-Developed Areas, 1962-63; (4) service as Director of International Organization Affairs in USDA, 1957-1975; and (5) other contributions to the livestock industry. These include service as founding editor of the Journal of Animal Science (1941-48), and research and technical publications on environmental factors in animal production and breeding, on animal genetic resources, and on various international aspects of animal agriculture. ■



Dr. Ralph W. Phillips (left) holding the plaque presented to him as the first recipient of the International Animal Agriculture Award. J. C. Bouffault (right) of Paris, France made the presentation.



BOYS' CLUB RECEIVES FAS CHECK—Contributions to the 4th annual FAS Boys' Club Drive reached a new high of \$1,200. Sponsored by the EEO Advisory Committee of FAS, funds collected each year are presented to the Metropolitan Police Boys' Club for its summer camp program. Administrator David Hume, (left) looks on as Inspector Arthur F. DiGennaro (holding check) and Lt. C. Goldston accept this year's contribution. EEO Advisory Committee members pictured are Carolyn Cooper (second from left), and at right, Kerry Reynolds and Dorothy Whitehead. ■

FAS FOREIGN NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES VISIT U.S. FOR ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAM

The training program this year for FAS foreign national professional employees is taking place September 6 to October 11. The 5-week program is planned for 12 participants from around the world and includes a week-long orientation in FAS/W before departing on a 7-day field trip to Iowa and Illinois.

During the third week, the participants return to Washington for additional consultations and program discussions. The following week, September 28-October 4, calls for another field trip, this time to Louisiana and Texas.

The training program concludes with a final week in FAS/W for a continuation of training on administrative reports, commodity programs, and discussions. During the training program, time has been allotted for individual consultations and an evaluation period is planned for the final day.

Participants at this year's orientation are:

Edna Accari, Buenos Aires

Saiful Alam, Dacca

Svetlana Dimic-Gagic, Belgrade

Mohammad Ali Ellini, Tehran

Benjamin Gallegos, Guatemala City

Cornelius Germishuis, Pretoria

Kinya Hatsuta, Tokyo

Conrado A. Monserrat, Manila

Robin Francis Mosse, Dublin

Francisco Serrano, Quito

Manmohan Singh Takkar, New Delhi

Josef Wienken, Bonn ■

Retirements Around FAS

Elizabeth Weatherspoon, secretary for the past 10 years in the Office of the Assistant Administrator for Foreign Commodity Analysis, retired on July 18. Betty had a total of 25 years Federal service, most of which was in various secretarial positions in FAS. ■

Having spent all of her Government service as a U.S. resident employee in Mexico City, May R. Arkus retired on June 30. She has been with FAS since 1955, serving as administrative assistant and secretary to attaches in that city. From 1946 to 1955, May served in various capacities with the Department of State. ■

Raymond Shegogue, deputy assistant sales manager for the P.L. 480 programs, retired on July 31 with more than 34 years in a Government career. All of Ray's 18 years in USDA were with FAS or EMS. ■

With almost 38 years in the Government service, Dan Tierney retired on August 31 as director of the Program Operations Division, a position he had held for the past 16 years. ■

Taro J. Watanabe, agricultural economist in the Tokyo agricultural attache office, retired on July 31 after almost 13 years with FAS. ■

Iris Nichols joined the retirement ranks on May 9, closing a Government career of nearly 25 years, of which 20 years were with FAS. Secretarial assignments for Iris included six posts, as well as FAS/W. ■

With more than 20 years in FAS's tobacco division, Hugh Kiger retired on June 6 as director of the Tobacco Foreign Commodity Analysis Division, a position he has held since 1961. Dr. Kiger is now vice-president of the Leaf Tobacco Exporters Association in Raleigh, North Carolina. ■

Mary K. Myers retired on July 31 from a Government career totaling 28 years. Kitty began her FAS years in 1953, serving as secretary to attaches in Buenos Aires, Tokyo, and Belgrade, in addition to her FAS/W assignments. ■

After serving nearly 28 years as secretary in the New Delhi agricultural attache office, P. Kalastri Nathan retired from his work with FAS on June 30. ■

Another long-time FAS employee, Gisela Schatzer, retired on July 25. She had been secretary in the Vienna attache office for about 26 years. ■



RETIREEES ALL—At the festivities for Robert Bieber's retirement were other well-known Grain and Feed Division economists, who also had decided upon the leisure life just a month or so before Bob. Pictured from left are Horace Sears, Bob, Sara Murphy, and Ed Seeborg. ■

William Starkey, director, Sugar and Tropical Products Division, retired on July 18 with 32 years of Government service to his credit. Almost 27 years of Bill's career were with USDA and the last 20 years with FAS, serving in various capacities. He was a grain specialist, particularly on international agreements, for many years, and served on two occasions as acting attache in Tehran and Ankara. ■

Lawrence J. McMillan retired on July 31 after more than 29 years of government service. Although with FAS for only a year, he is credited with the successful launching of the Representation and Foreign Visitors staff, serving as this activity's first Coordinator. He and his wife are planning to return to native turf in Fort Collins, Colorado. ■

Rounding out over 35 years service to the Government on July 18, Joseph Creekmore retired. More than half of his service was with the Commodity Credit Corporation Barter Program where his knowledge of exotic materials was of equal importance with that of major U.S. commodities shipped abroad. ■

The Grain and Feed Division lost another long-time employee, Robert Bieber, to retirement on January 31. Bob's Government career spanned 31 years, of which the last 16 were with FAS. ■

Another end of the fiscal year retiree is Barbara Preston. Having spent the major part of her 32-year career in the P.L. 480 program operations area, Barbara now plans to unwind herself and wind up her fishing reel. ■

Vivian Koebel, secretary to Associate Administrator Goodman for the past several years, retired on May 16. Vivian served in various other secretarial assignments with FAS during the past 20 years. The early period of her 31 years in Federal service was with the Department of Justice. ■

With 30 years of Government service on record, Horace Sears retired as 1974 came to a close. Horace had worked as an economist for the Grain and Feed Division since 1963. ■



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